

**For U.S. forces  
serving abroad**

# Stripes™



A news digest from The Stars and Stripes

Wednesday, April 15, 1998

Eight pages

## Navy sticks to plan to recycle napalm

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Navy says it remains committed to destroying or recycling 3.3 million gallons of napalm, although a company that agreed to do the job pulled out of its contract as the first shipment traveled by rail across the country Tuesday.

The Pentagon seemed taken aback by the last-minute cancellation of the deal as two 6,000-gallon drums of the Vietnam-era jellied gasoline rode a railcar from California toward its Indiana destination, crossing New Mexico on Tuesday.

"Good question," Defense Department spokesman Ken Bacon told reporters when asked what the military would do now that its napalm destruction plans are stalled.

Hoping to ease any public safety concerns, Bacon said there is no danger in shipping the incendiary product, which had been stored for two dozen years at a facility north of San Diego, because it is more stable and less volatile than gasoline.

"It's not explosive. It's very safe to transport," Bacon said.

Navy officials said they would likely seek another method of destroying the napalm or find another company to do the original job that was subcontracted out by a larger firm.

"We're committed to this project because it is a safe and responsible project," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Jon Smith.

"We are examining all of our options," Smith said.

The military hasn't yet decided what to do about the current shipment, which was being transported by the Burlington Northern/Santa Fe Railway, Smith said.

The one-railcar load on a train of 60 to 80 cars will cross into Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Missouri before arriving in Illinois this weekend, the company said. From there, a smaller railroad was to transport the shipment from Illinois to Indiana.

Pollution Control Industries in East Chicago, Ind., had agreed in a \$24 million contract to turn the 3.3 million gallons of napalm from the Fallbrook Naval Weapons Facility north of San Diego into fuel for cement kilns over two years.

## U.S. is vulnerable to bioweapons

**By Scripps Howard**

WASHINGTON — One of the nation's leading disease detectives said Tuesday the United States is "completely ill-prepared" to cope with a terrorist attack using biological weapons.

There is neither the medical infrastructure nor organization necessary to respond to the spread of disease-causing agents that could fatally sicken tens of thousands of vic-

tims, said Dr. Michael Osterholm, state epidemiologist for the Minnesota Department of Health.

"We don't even have some place to safely take the bodies," he told a forum sponsored by the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases. Osterholm, who has been a national leader in sounding public health alarms on issues ranging from toxic shock syndrome to increased threats from food-

borne illness, also serves with several national scientific organizations concerned and has advised the U.S. military. He said he and other experts on anthrax, smallpox, plague and other potential ingredients of deliberately spread mayhem have moved to speak out with greater specificity in recent months "because we know there are bad guys out there that know how to do this."

## Vaccine safe, top Army doctor says

**By Stars and Stripes**

LANDSTUHL, Germany — The U.S. Army's highest-ranking doctor says he understands the fears of servicemembers who've refused to take a mandatory anthrax vaccination.

But "I feel that, unfortunately, they are acting on misinformation," said Dr. (Lt. Gen.) Ronald R. Blanck, the surgeon general of the U.S. Army.

About 20 servicemembers in all four services have refused the vaccination, Blanck said in an interview at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. In December, Defense Secretary William Cohen ordered all 1.5 million American servicemembers to get the vaccination to protect them against a potential attack with the biological warfare agent.

The program began several weeks ago for about 37,000 troops deployed to the Persian Gulf, where a potential attack from Iraq seemed possible.

He said he thinks the servicemembers' refusals are linked to a theory that Gulf War syndrome was caused by nerve agent tablets some soldiers had to take during the 1991 Persian Gulf War with Iraq. Several soldiers have since stated that the experimental pyridostigmine bromide tablets — or PB tablets for short — caused major physical and mental impairments. The drug hadn't been approved by the Food and Drug Administration to combat nerve agents.

"Since the Gulf War, we've learned an awful lot," Blanck said.

Each servicemember is given a full explanation of the anthrax vaccine, including handouts.

## Reactions to drugs make millions ill

By Washington Post

**More than two million Americans become seriously ill every year because of toxic reactions to correctly prescribed medicines taken properly, and 106,000 die from those reactions, a new study concludes. That surprisingly high number makes drug side effects at least the sixth, and perhaps even the fourth, most common cause of death in this country.**

The analysis, the largest and most complete of its kind, suggests that one in fifteen hospital patients in the United States can expect to suffer from a serious reaction to prescription or over-the-counter medicine, and about five percent of these will die from it. If the findings are accurate, then the number of people dying each year from drug side effects may be exceeded only by the numbers of people dying from heart disease, cancer and stroke, and may be greater than the number dying from lung disease, pneumonia or diabetes.

## Former deputy IG probe is expanded by the Army

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army says it has expanded its investigation of a former deputy inspector general beyond assertions of sexual misconduct to also look into an allegation of religious harassment from a Muslim soldier and his wife.

The Muslim couple filed a \$100 million civil claim Tuesday against retired Maj. Gen. David Hale, the Army and the Defense Department.

"I do not think the federal government should empower any federal official to engage in overt religious persecution of any American citizen, whether within the United States or overseas when that official is acting under the color of his office," Muhammed and Saabirah Howard said in a letter accompanying their civil complaint.

Specialist Howard, who remains in the Army at

Fort Bragg, N.C., was based at Izmir, Turkey, when the alleged harassment occurred. Hale was there as deputy commanding general of NATO's allied land forces in southeastern Europe.

The Howards contend Hale let Army officials on the base harass them. One example they cited was requiring Mrs. Howard to unveil her face to male soldiers, which is against her beliefs. The couple also allege Hale was part of a conspiracy to get them removed from Turkey, a secular society, due to a constant military crackdown on Muslims.

If the Army doesn't act on the civil claim within 180 days, the couple would be free to file a federal lawsuit. They plan to do so, said retired Army Col. John Pitchford, who is acting as the Howards' spokesman.

Susan Hansen, an Army spokeswoman, confirmed the Howards' allegations have become part of the Hale case, partly because his sexual accuser told investigators Hale confessed he had someone "do something to the Muslim soldier" to get him to leave.

"The inspector general is aware of the Howard allegation and it's being looked at," Hansen said, calling the investigation of Hale "very thorough."

Last month, Defense Secretary William Cohen ordered his own inquiry to investigate, among other things, why Hale was allowed to retire honorably while the sexual investigation was underway.

Hale, 53, asked to retire after serving only four months as the Army's deputy inspector general, a post usually held for two years.

## 'Old Ironsides' not ship-shape — ex-commanders

BOSTON (AP) — For 200 years, the USS Constitution has been the pride of the U.S. Navy. It held its own in the War of 1812, negotiated sea battles with Barbary pirates, and earned its name for deflecting cannonballs off its oaken hull.

Now after a summer of hoopla marking its bicentennial and its first sail in more than 100 years, "Old Ironsides" is threatened by its travel demands and should be anchored in Boston Harbor, some of its former commanders said Tuesday.

"This ship is not as strong as it used to be," said Herman Sudholz, who commanded the ship from 1980 to 1985. "I don't want to see her planted in concrete, but I also don't want to see her destroyed by taking her out in bad weather. She's too precious."

Other cities want the historic ship — now docked at the Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston Harbor — to visit, with

some even saying that Boston has had it long enough.

But five of its former commanders, who gathered Tuesday for a news conference, have likened the ship to a geriatric patient unable to leave port. They say tentative plans to sail the ship, or tow it at open sea, are too risky given the ship's fragile condition.

The ship underwent 3 1/2 years of renovation at a cost of \$12 million before last summer's sail, but the commanders said that it would have cost \$64 million to make the ship ready to cope with rough seas again.

The keel and many of the ribs and structural beams of the ship, which was launched Oct. 21, 1797, are the originals. But much of the ship has been either replaced or reinforced. "They have made the center of the ship strong by putting reinforcement beams in it," Sudholz said.

"But the bow and the stern are still vulnerable. You can only drive so many pins and nails into the frame before that frame is compromised."

### Stripes

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## 2 arrested in plot to sell cannons to feds

By Los Angeles Times

**LOS ANGELES** — An Idaho peddler of used airplanes and a Southern California intermediary have been arrested in a sting operation for allegedly trying to sell to undercover federal agents five 30-mm cannons capable of firing 1,200 explosive projectiles a minute.

Steven L. Picatti, 53, of Boise, Idaho, and Kasi Gabbita, 55, of Hacienda Heights, Calif., were taken into custody by U.S. Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and U.S. Customs agents on Monday and Tuesday, federal officials said Tuesday.

The arrest of a third man is anticipated, agents said.

Agents said at a news conference that Picatti, the principal in the alleged deal, apparently believed he was dealing with suppliers of a drug cartel when he transferred the deadly weapons to Los Angeles.

Instead he was arrested near the Van Nuys Airport in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley Monday as he awaited a \$24,000 payment for four of the cannon he had allegedly driven to Los Angeles from Boise in a pickup truck.

Gabbita was picked up at his home Tuesday morning.

Both arrests were peaceful, agents said.

Picatti is accused of selling and delivering a fifth cannon to federal undercover agents in February for \$12,000.

The British and French-manufactured Aden cannon, developed in the late 1940s, was once used as armament in Hawker Hunter fighter aircraft and also once employed in U.S. Marine Harrier fighters.

It is classed as an "implement of war" and is prohibited to civilians under a 1968 U.S. law.

## Despite plea, Virginia holds an execution

**JARRATT, Va. (AP)** — A Paraguayan man who stabbed a woman to death was executed Tuesday night despite requests by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and the World Court that the sentence be blocked.

The 15-member United Nations Tribunal ruled last week that the execution should be blocked because Virginia authorities failed to notify Paraguay of the man's arrest as required by an international treaty, the Vienna Convention.

Angel Francisco Breard, 32, was executed by injection shortly after Gov. Jim Gilmore refused to stop the sentence from being carried out.

Gilmore said delay of the execution "would have the practical effect of transferring responsibility from the courts of the commonwealth and the United States to the International Court."

Breard was flanked by an attorney and a spiritual adviser when he was led into the death chamber. His final words were "May glory be to God," Department of Corrections spokesman Larry Traylor said.

Earlier in the day the U.S. Supreme Court, in a 6-3 decision, also refused to block the execution.

In Tuesday's unsigned opinion, justices said Breard failed to assert his claim in state court that the treaty had been violated, and therefore lost his right to raise that issue in federal court.

Breard was not informed of his right to seek help from his country's embassy when he was arrested for the 1992 murder and attempted rape of Ruth Dickie in Arlington.

## Starr wants secret service to testify

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Setting the stage for a showdown with the Secret Service, Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr has asked a judge to compel members of the White House security detail to answer questions about President Clinton's relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

An official knowledgeable about negotiations

between Starr's office and the Justice Department said the prosecutor filed his motion Friday after the talks broke down.

The Clinton administration plans to fight it, the official said.

Starr is seeking grand jury testimony from uniformed officers responsible for the security of the White House complex.

He apparently believes

they have information that might shed light on the Clinton-Lewinsky relationship, said the source, who spoke only on grounds of anonymity.

The Clinton administration argues that compelling testimony from tight-lipped Secret Service officials would undermine the trust between presidents and their many protectors.

## Accident death rates worst among 16-year-old drivers

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The newest drivers are far more likely to die in automobile accidents than drivers even a year or two older, prompting the insurance industry today to lobby anew for licenses that allow increased driving privileges as a driver gains experience.

A study of driving death rates found that the overall trend was in decline, from 15 driver deaths per 100,000 licensed drivers in 1975 to 12 deaths per 100,000 in

1996. But among 16-year-olds, the death rate nearly doubled, from 19 per 100,000 in 1975 to 35 per 100,000 in 1996.

The statistics for 17- to 19-year-olds, meanwhile, declined from 27 deaths per 100,000 licensed drivers in 1975 to 25 deaths per 100,000 in 1996. That age group accounted for the most teen driving deaths until the mid-1980s.

"The most plausible hypothesis is that 16-year-olds are driving in more high-

risk circumstances — at night, for example — than they used to, compared with 17- to 19-year-olds," said Allan Williams, senior vice president of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. The group, which is funded by the insurance industry, conducted the study by examining government fatal accident reports.

Studies have shown driver's ed doesn't affect the accident experience of beginning drivers.

# Bound by pain, vets share goal

**By Stars and Stripes**

EAGLE BASE, Bosnia and Herzegovina — The U.S. senator and the Bosnian municipal worker are veterans of different wars but are bound together by their experience and their cause.

Edin Osmanbegovic is a Bosnian army veteran who lost both legs in a land mine explosion in 1992. Sen. Max Cleland, D-Ga., lost both legs and an arm after a grenade explosion in Vietnam.

Both are focused on eliminating the use of anti-personnel land mines.

The two met at Eagle Base on Sunday when Cleland led a congressional delegation that delivered a wheelchair for Osmanbegovic.

They spoke quietly about the common ground as disabled veterans and the challenges veterans face.

"I will never forget this day. I will remember this always," the emotional Osmanbegovic said.

The Bosnian made a personal plea to Cleland to help the world understand the plight of people in Bosnia, who continue to be killed and maimed by

explosives left from the Bosnian war.

Since he returned from Norway last year after therapy and treatment for his injuries, Osmanbegovic has become active in the Land Mine Survivors Network, an organization that campaigns for outlawing the use of anti-personnel land mines worldwide.

"Monthly (in Bosnia), approximately 50 civilian people are injured from land mine accidents, mostly children. Bosnia is getting more and more invalids, people who need extensive medical care

and orthopedic devices," Osmanbegovic said.

This places an even heavier burden on the country's developing economy and medical system, he said.

Cleland vowed to take this message to other organizations involved in the effort to eradicate the use of anti-personnel mines.

"As a Vietnam veteran I am well aware of the pain explosives, land mines and grenades can cause to people well after the war is over and the soldiers are gone," Cleland said.

## Grand Forks Herald wins public service Pulitzer Prize

NEW YORK (AP) — The Grand Forks Herald, which published through floods that devastated the North Dakota city and its own plant, won the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for public service Tuesday. The New York Times won three of journalism's most prestigious awards and the Los Angeles Times won two.

It was the first Pulitzer for the Herald, whose building was destroyed a year ago this week by a fire that swept through Grand Forks in the midst of the flooding. Most of the newsroom's 57 employees were flood victims.

The paper continued publishing with help from other Knight Ridder newspapers, including the St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press, which provided computer equipment and printed the Herald during

the crisis. "It would have been worth it, even if we hadn't gotten the prize," said Jeff Beach, news editor of the 37,000-circulation Herald. "People in the community are starting to talk about remembering the Herald again, from that special time during the flood when it was being snapped up at all the refugee centers and how very important it was to people. I think that meant more than the prize."

Also receiving a Pulitzer was The Riverdale Press, a New York City weekly with a circulation of 11,800. Editor and co-publisher Bernard L. Stein was honored for editorials on politics and city issues. Tipped in advance that he had won, but not sure whether to believe it, Stein sent a reporter to Columbia University for the announcement.

## Serbs plead innocent to atrocities

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Two Bosnian Serbs charged with commanding guards who killed, raped and tortured Muslims and Croats at a prison camp in 1992 pleaded innocent Tuesday to committing war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Miroslav Kvočka, 41, and Mladen Radic, 45,

were arrested last Wednesday by British troops serving in the NATO-led peace stabilization force in Bosnia.

They faced a total of 11 charges relating to atrocities allegedly committed by guards under their command at Omarska camp in northern Bosnia. Radic also pleaded innocent to 15 other charges

that he repeatedly raped a female prisoner identified only as "A." Both men told Portuguese judge Almiro Rodrigues that they were policemen until their arrests in northwest Bosnia. They were the second and third Serbs to be captured by international troops from the town of Prijedor since last summer.

## Brothers can't be punished for alleged attack

DALLAS (AP) — Two brothers cannot be punished for their confessed roles in the sexual assault of a 3-year-old girl because they are under age 10, but an 11-year-old boy could face up to 40 years in prison, officials said Tuesday.

The boys took the girl from a van outside her home to a neighborhood creek, where she was stripped and beaten with a brick on Thursday, said police Lt. Bill Walsh, head of the child exploitation unit.

All three attempted to have sexual intercourse with the girl and then dragged her down a concrete aqueduct, Walsh said. Under Texas law, the brothers, ages 7 and 8, cannot be held responsible for their alleged actions because of their age.

They are expected to testify against the older boy, Walsh said.

The girl, left bruised and bloodied in a muddy pool of water, was found wandering naked up the creek's embankment by an uncle who was searching for her, police said. Tests for evidence of a sexual assault came up negative, which is not uncommon, Walsh said. Investigators were unaware that she had been assaulted until Friday.

# Trip to Bosnia bolsters lawmaker

By Cox News Service

WASHINGTON — Rep. Bob Etheridge, D-N.C., said Tuesday that a recent trip to Bosnia fortified his commitment to keep U.S. troops in the war-torn region.

"The U.S. presence has made a difference," he said. "The bloodshed that really horrified the world has stopped."

Etheridge returned last week from a five-day tour which included stops in Sarajevo and Macedonia. He went as part of a congressional delegation which included Reps. Bob Riley, R-Ala., and

Ernest Istook, R-Okla. Etheridge said the three House members will likely present a joint report to Congress later this month.

The congressmen visited some of the hardest hit areas.

"Words cannot describe the tremendous devastation that you see," Etheridge said.

Efforts to rebuild schools and railroads, establish a free press, develop political parties and resurrect the economy have a long way to go, he added.

Throughout the trip, Etheridge met

with U.S. soldiers, including dozens from North Carolina. There are nearly 8,000 U.S. soldiers in the Balkans.

"Everywhere I stopped, I was able to meet with North Carolinians," he said.

In the city of Tuzla, Etheridge met troops from the North Carolina National Guard's 1,454th Transportation Company which is moving equipment and supplies through the occupied area.

In addition to taking pictures with many of the soldiers, he offered them congressional stationery, which some used to write letters to their families.

## Experts worried Iraq may restrict inspections

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — U.N. arms experts are warning that Iraq might try to restrict second-round inspections at Saddam Hussein's palaces — despite Iraqi cooperation in the initial round.

The issue was raised in a report sent this week to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, who had persuaded the Iraqis in February to allow U.N. inspectors to visit eight

presidential compounds. Annan's mediation averted a threatened U.S. military strike to force access.

The report has not been released or sent to the Security Council, which oversees the weapons inspection program. The U.N. Special Commission, which performs the inspections, refused comment on it.

But sources familiar with

the report said it concludes Iraq has allowed the inspectors, accompanied by diplomats, full access to the presidential compounds, in keeping with the Annan agreement.

At the same time, the report raises the possibility of future problems for inspectors in gaining access to the sites, the sources said on condition of anonymity.

The inspectors are seeking to determine whether Iraq has complied with U.N. orders, issued at the end of the 1991 Persian Gulf War, to destroy all long-range missiles and nuclear, chemical and biological weapons.

Inspectors must certify compliance before the Security Council will lift economic sanctions imposed in 1990 after Iraq invaded Kuwait.

## Recruiting kids into armed forces should be war crime, U.N. says

GENEVA (AP) — Recruiting children into the armed forces or sending them into conflict should be considered a war crime, the U.N. children's agency said Tuesday.

International law should be changed to allow countries who recruit people younger than 18 into their armed forces to be hauled before the proposed International Criminal Court, UNICEF said in a statement.

UNICEF was disappointed countries have not been able to agree to a proposed international protocol which would raise the minimum age of military recruitment to 18 from 15, said the agency's director Carol Bellamy.

"We still hope to achieve this protocol," said Bellamy.

The United States was among countries that opposed creating the op-

tional protocol when it was debated at a conference in Geneva earlier this year.

It fears the new rule would hamper its military operations. The United States also said there was no point in setting higher standards when the existing minimum age was not being respected. Britain and several other countries also came out against the proposed new minimum.

Many countries and organizations favor raising the age of participation in war to 18. The U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson, supports the move, saying it reflects a growing international consensus. The United States and other countries are negotiating the creation of a permanent U.N. international criminal court as a means of bringing to justice perpetrators of mass killings.

## Shelton gives the Hungarian army a big thumbs up

TATA, Hungary (AP) — The chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Henry H. Shelton, inspected the Hungarian military Tuesday and praised them for their progress to achieve NATO membership.

"You have done everything to achieve interoperability," he told the troops from the Tata Mechanized Brigade, using a military buzzword that refers to compatibility and communication with NATO candidates' militaries.

Speaking at the troops' exercise in western Hungary, he said he was proud that Hungary is one of the three countries invited to join NATO.

"Hungary is ready for that challenge," he said, adding that "your future is in your hands." Shelton stressed that the human factor must take priority over equipment, and praised the Hungarian leaders' emphasis on strategy and training.

## Bizarre show is the king of TV in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — TV talk-show host Carlos Massa ticks off his best shows: the deformed “elephant boy,” the battered wife with punctured eyes, the woman whose hand was eaten by a dog.

But, truly, the pregnant man tops them all.

“My greatest success,” says Massa, a blustery man TV viewers know as “Ratinho,” Portuguese for Mouse.

Brazilians are captivated by the bizarre tales that Ratinho dishes out every week night, and his success has shaken up the nation’s TV market. Viewers are switching away from the world’s fourth-largest TV network, Globo, during prime time to catch “Ratinho Livre” (“Mouse Unbound”) on the upstart Record network.

Some experts — and Ratinho — say he provides an avenue of appeal for people resigned to daily injustices. Ordinary folks, such as Claudio Conti, have their own take: “Ratinho speaks the language of the common people.”

“My wife loves it,” said Conti, a television technician. “I watch it, too. It’s not just trash.”

“Ratinho Livre” is, however, often outrageous.

One top-rated show featured a woman whose jealous husband pierced her eyes with a needle and cut off part of her tongue and ears. Another had a feuding family that began bashing each other on the set.

A bemused Ratinho let them fight, then waded in and took a couple of licks himself.

Weird diseases are a favorite theme, a child with 26 tumors in his mouth and the “elephant boy,” said to be so deformed that Ratinho showed him only in profile through a screen — to spare the audience from the revulsion and the boy from embarrassment.

## ‘Titanic’ makes splash in town used for filming

By Associated Press

ROSARITO, Mexico — Undeveloped beaches, scenic surf and succulent lobster once defined this popular tourist spot in Baja California.

That was before the Titanic docked here.

Now, there are Titanic burgers, Titanic seafood and a Titanic glass and screen shop with faux portholes on its storefront. And don’t forget the “Titanic” museum.

James Cameron, the writer-director of Hollywood’s most expensive film, searched worldwide for the perfect location to sink his 775-foot (232-meter) model of the ill-fated ship that sunk 86 years ago on Tuesday.

He chose Rosarito, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) south of San Diego, because of its uncluttered view of the Pacific. Now, the 80,000 residents of this poor, coastal town hope the Titanic will be their ship of fame and fortune, attracting future films and tourists.

“In the future, ‘Titanic’ will mean more confidence to invest, if (20th Century) Fox invested and filmed a great movie like this one,” said Mayor Hugo Torres Chabert, who wants to diversify his town’s summer economy and lessen its reliance on surfers, daytrippers and

retirees.

The set was constructed on 40 acres (16 hectares) of seaside land three miles (five kilometers) south of Rosarito’s hotel-restaurant strip. A good portion of space was dedicated to a 17 million-gallon (65-million-liter) pool, which remains for future films.

When shooting over six months in 1996 and 1997, the production pumped more than \$15 million into the economy, Rosarito officials estimate. Actors and production crews filled 350 hotel rooms and 300 private rental houses in the area’s off-season, from October to February.

Work was created for 100 locals as carpenters, welders and extras, most of whom doubled their weekly incomes working on the film.

“Luckily for us they were filming during those months, so we had a lot of rooms that we rented that we wouldn’t have otherwise rented,” said Jimmy Evangelatos, director of Las Rocas Resort and Spa.

After the \$200 million epic debuted last December and became a box office smash, Rosarito tourism officials started cashing in on the craze.

Travel ads published in Southern California newspapers touted, “Be our guest ... Titanic was!”

*Faces  
'n'  
places*

## In The Stars and Stripes

### 10 YEARS AGO

April 15, 1988 — An explosion, apparently set off by a car bomb, tore apart the USO club in downtown Naples, Italy, possibly killing five people and injuring as many as 20.

### 20 YEARS AGO

April 15, 1978 — Unions representing 1.4 million federal white-collar workers resigned from a government wage negotiating board to protest President Carter’s 5.5 percent ceiling on pay raises for military and federal workers.

### 30 YEARS AGO

April 15, 1968 — Pope Paul VI, in his Vatican City Easter message, called for a military truce in Vietnam and a peace settlement that would guarantee freedom for both North Vietnam and South Vietnam.

### 40 YEARS AGO

April 15, 1958 — The United States, Britain and France won backing from their NATO allies to open talks in Moscow on the summit of East-west leaders proposed by Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

### 50 YEARS AGO

April 15, 1948 — Harold Stassen of Minnesota became the leading candidate for the Republican presidential nomination with a victory in the Nebraska primary.

# Cards' McGwire whacks 3 homers

By Associated Press

Maybe the St. Louis Cardinals should make sure Matt McGwire comes to town more often.

Last summer, Matt visited St. Louis and liked it so much he encouraged his dad to re-sign with the Cardinals. On Tuesday night, the 10-year-old boy was back at Busch Stadium as the team's bat-boy, and his pop put on quite a show.

Mark McGwire hit three home runs for the third time in his career, leading the Cardinals to a 15-5 rout over the Arizona Diamondbacks.

"The first year I played in the big leagues, I played on the same team as Reggie Jackson," McGwire said.

"He told me that he always regretted that he didn't have a child to watch him hit his 500 home runs.

"I just feel fortunate that he is around to

see me. That makes it special," he said.

McGwire went 3-for-3, drove in five runs and scored four.

He has seven homers this season, all at home, and has 22 RBIs in just 13 games.



In other NL games, San Francisco defeated San Diego 13-7, Atlanta beat Pittsburgh 6-0, Milwaukee downed Montreal 7-4, Colorado beat Los Angeles 6-3 and New York defeated Chicago 6-0.

Matt Williams hit the first grand slam ever for Arizona, but the Diamondbacks lost their sixth in a row.

McGwire hit a two-run homer in the third inning and a solo shot in the fifth. He hit a 462-foot, two-run drive in the eighth for his first three-homer game since June 11, 1995, for Oakland.

"Wow," Williams said.

"We don't need Mark to start doing that."

McGwire had gone eight games without a home run before feasting on the Diamondbacks.

McGwire has hit 31 home runs in just 64 games for the Cardinals.

He refuses to predict, however, whether he will approach Roger Maris' record of 61 homers.

"You can't think that way," McGwire said. "It's such a long season.

Today's over and done with.

"I'll think about it and enjoy it on the way home, but tomorrow's another day."

No matter what happens, he'll always remember the big night in front of his son.

"I've had some great exciting games and years in Oakland," McGwire said.

## Seattle relievers shelled yet again as Tribe rolls

By Associated Press

HELP WANTED: Dependable relief pitcher to throw strikes on a part-time basis. Major league experience and ability to work with others a must. Excellent benefits. If interested, call Lou.

Maybe it's time Seattle manager Lou Piniella took out a classified ad, because the Mariners have to do something drastic to fix their dreadful bullpen.

Piniella remained locked in his office Tuesday night after relievers Heathcliff Slocumb and Mike Timlin walked four batters during a five-run eighth inning that gave the Cleveland Indians an 8-3 win over the Mariners.

The latest collapse by Seattle's relief corps comes after it blew two save chances over the weekend in Boston and failed to hold a 3-0 lead Monday night against the Indians.

Elsewhere in the AL, it was Baltimore 4, Chicago 3; Minnesota 8, Tampa Bay 2; Boston 8, Oakland 6; Texas 11, Detroit 2; and Toronto 5, Kansas City 1.

After firing pitching coach Nardi Contreras on Monday and replacing him with Stan Williams, the Mariners (3-10) are looking for answers.



However, Timlin said the bullpen's failings have been, well, overblown.

"The papers make a lot of this," he said.

"I know you guys don't write the headlines, but we could save 20 in a row, and if we blow just one, all those 20 won't matter in the papers.

"As for me, I have no doubt I can get anyone out who steps in the box. I have that kind of stuff."

He didn't have it in the eighth after replacing Slocumb (0-2), who walked the bases loaded with two outs. After a first-pitch ball to Omar Vizquel, Piniella brought in Timlin.

Timlin threw three straight balls to Vizquel, forcing home the go-ahead run. Kenny Lofton followed with a two-run double and Shawon Dunston hit a two-run triple as Cleveland broke open the game.

Indians manager Mike Hargrove said he could understand the Mariners' frustrations — but had no sympathy.

"Not to be cruel, but you sure hope it continues," Hargrove said. "We didn't go up there looking for walks. They just didn't throw strikes."

Winner Paul Assenmacher (1-0) got the final four outs.

## Yanks back at Shea to play today

NEW YORK (AP) — Months ago, the New York Yankees planned today as a turn back the clock day, selling \$2 tickets in honor of the 75th anniversary of Yankee Stadium.

Little did they know they'd be turning the clock back to 1975 instead of 1923.

While city engineers continue to probe and X-ray Yankee Stadium, the team played a regular-season home game outside of the Bronx for the first time 23 years, meeting the Anaheim Angels in Shea Stadium in the opener of a rather unusual doubleheader.

After the American League game, which starts at 12:05 p.m. EDT, the New York Mets play their regularly scheduled National League game against the Chicago Cubs at 7:40 p.m.

"I wonder if we're allowed to stay," said Yankees pitcher David Cone, a former Mets star.

"I'm not sure, I might have to buy a ticket."



# Knicks, Nets lose in battle for 7th

By Associated Press

The New York Knicks and New Jersey Nets played like they want to meet the Chicago Bulls.

The two New York-area teams, hoping to finish seventh in the Eastern Conference and earn a first-round playoff matchup with Miami, each lost at home Tuesday night. New York fell 104-102 to Washington and New Jersey dropped a 96-92 decision to Toronto.

"This game stunned me," Calipari said after the Nets blew an 11-point third-quarter lead in failing to clinch their first playoff berth since 1994. "But I can't point to one guy. I have to point to the whole roster."

But the Nets, who are one-half game ahead of New York, didn't lose ground to the Knicks, who on the same day lost to Washington and a protest over their controversial loss on Sunday at Miami.

"We obviously lost twice tonight,"

coach Jeff Van Gundy said after his team missed an opportunity to clinch the playoffs. "The one thing that was in our control we didn't take care of."

New York, which can clinch the playoffs with one win in its final two games, failed to eliminate the Wizards from playoff contention and to move ahead of New Jersey. The eighth-place team in the East plays Chicago in the first round, while the seventh-place team plays Miami.



"It was there for us, we knew our situation and we didn't play well enough to get it done," Van Gundy said. "We had everything to play for, they were fighting for their playoff lives and they dominated us until we made an effort."

Elsewhere in the NBA, it was Atlanta 95, Philadelphia 94; Cleveland 95, Boston 86; Charlotte 104, Milwaukee 82;

the Los Angeles Lakers 111, Dallas 95; Houston 94, Denver 88; Utah 126, Minnesota 109; Portland 92, Sacramento 66; and Seattle 110, Vancouver 98.

Tracy Murray scored 27 points as Washington snapped a three-game losing streak. The Wizards must win their final three games and hope either New York or New Jersey loses the rest of its games to make the playoffs.

"With our backs up against the wall, you've got to let it all hang out," Murray said. "You either tense up or you're going to loosen up and just play. And that's what we did, we all played."

Allan Houston scored 23 for New York.

Toronto's Doug Christie scored 13 of his 23 points in the fourth quarter and Marcus Camby had a team-record 11 blocks en route to his first career triple-double.

Camby had 15 points and 12 rebounds to go along with his blocks.

## In 2nd stab at race forum, Clinton focuses on sports

HOUSTON (AP) — Giving a sharper focus to his national dialogue on race, President Clinton on Tuesday urged Americans to look to the world of sports as an example of how individuals of different races can join in a common effort.

"It is important that people see that in athletics in America that the rules are fair, that people get their fair chance," Clinton said in leading off a 105-minute nationally televised discussion on the role of race in sports.

An avid fan of college basketball and major professional sports, Clinton is well versed in sensitive issues like white dominance in coaching and sports team ownership.

He said that if professional sports wants more minority coaches but cannot find them, "then there's something wrong with recruitment."

The meeting, broadcast live on ESPN, was the second of Clinton's three planned nationally televised town hall meetings on race.

The first was in Akron last December.

The 11-member panel discussed

several topics but returned often to the relative shortage of minorities in top sports management jobs. Georgetown University basketball coach John Thompson said blacks must be given more opportunities, even if they are not seen as sure-fire coaching successes right away.

"I'm sick of us having to be perfect to get the job," Thompson said. But Thompson took exception when former Cleveland Browns running back Jim Brown also suggested that black college stars turn more often to black agents in launching their professional sports careers.

Joe Morgan, a member of baseball's Hall of Fame, said baseball has made only small progress.

While noting that some of the greatest players in baseball history are black, "once they're finished, there is no place for them to go" in the sport business, he said.

Morgan said baseball has failed to aggressively recruit talent in urban black areas. One reason for that, he said, is a lack of black scouts for major league teams.

## Senators are no longer a laughingstock

MIAMI (AP) — Just a few short years ago, the Ottawa Senators were the laughingstock of the NHL.

Now that seems like a lifetime ago.

Alexei Yashin and Andreas Dackell each had a goal and an assist as Ottawa clinched its second straight playoff berth with a 3-2 victory over Florida on Tuesday night.

The victory was Ottawa's 33rd of the season, the same number as the franchise's first three seasons (1992-94) combined.



Unlike last year, when Ottawa had to defeat Buffalo in the final game of the regular season to squeak into the post-season, the Senators made sure there would be no need to go down to the wire.

"It feels great to not go down to the last game and to get it over with," goalie Damian Rhodes said.

Elsewhere in the NHL, Phoenix beat Detroit 2-1 and Washington topped the New York Rangers 3-1. Ottawa eliminated Carolina from contention for the final Eastern Conference spot.